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VERIFICATION OF A TRANSLATION

I, Susan ANTHONY BA, ACIS,

Director of RWS Group Ltd, of Europa House, Marsham Way, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire, England declare:

That the translator responsible for the attached translation is knowledgeable in the German language in which the below identified international application was filed, and that, to the best of RWS Group Ltd knowledge and belief, the English translation of the international application No. PCT/EP03/03892 is a true and complete translation of the above identified international application as filed.

I hereby declare that all the statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the patent application issued thereon.

Date: October 7, 2004

Signature :



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Description

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**Use of substances for the treatment of tumors**

[0001] The present invention relates to the use of an active ingredient and to a method for the prevention or treatment of tumors, the diagnostic 10 detection of disorders associated with these tumors, and pharmaceutical compositions and kits related thereto.

[0002] By tumor is meant a swelling or the localized increase in tissue volume. In the wider sense it may mean any localized swelling, e.g. 15 through an edema, an acute or chronic inflammation, aneurysmal dilatation, an inflammation-related organ swelling (e.g. a so-called splenic enlargement). In the narrower sense, tumor means tissue neoplasms (growth, blastoma, neoplasia) in the form of a spontaneous, autonomous and irreversible excessive growth, with various degrees of disinhibition, 20 of endogenous tissue, which is usually associated with various degrees of loss of specific cellular and tissue function.

Tumors are divided for better classification into:

I. According to their biological behavior:

25 1. Benign tumors with differentiated cells and slow, locally displacing growth.

2. Malignant tumors with cell nuclear polymorphism, cell atypia, anaplasia and infiltrating, usually rapid, destructive growth and metastasis.

30 3. Semimalignant tumors with the histological characteristics of malignant tumors and locally infiltrating growth, but usually without metastasis.

II. Histogenic classification:

This entails the tumors being classified on the basis of the tissue from which they have originated in the developmental history. There are:

- 5 1. Epithelial tumors originating from ectoderm and entoderm:
  - a) benign tumors such as, for example, adenoma, papilloma and polyps
  - b) malignant tumors such as, for example, carcinoma.
- 10 2. Mesenchymal tumors originating from the mesoderm:
  - a) benign tumors, such as, for example, lipoma, fibroma, osteoma, myoma, leiomyoma, rhabdomyoma, chondroma,
  - b) malignant tumors such as, for example, the sarcomas.
- 15 3. Embryonic tumors have originated from undifferentiated tissue. These include for example nephroblastomas, neuroblastomas, medulloblastomas, retinoblastomas and embryonic rhabdomyosarcomas and teratomas.

20 III. Classification according to clinical and pathological findings:

25 Inter alia the TNM classification, grading, Laurén classification, Dukes classification, Kieler classification, Rappaport classification etc apply here.

[0003] Even this brief review of tumor classification shows the diversity  
30 (and in some cases antagonism) existing within the various types of tumors. Thus, for example, a distinction is to be made not only between benign and malignant tumors but also between mortality or lethality of

the individual tumors and the probability that a benign tumor develops further to a malignant tumor.

[0004] Some tumors such as, for example, breast carcinomas (breast  
5 cancer), the commonest malignant tumor of women, occur with in-  
creased frequency in particular between the ages of 45 and 70. Early  
symptoms are suspicious findings of palpation, which are usually dis-  
covered following the examinations for early cancer diagnosis and on  
regular self-examination of the breast. Depending on the tumor stage  
10 and degree of differentiation of the tumor, the prognosis in these cases  
may range from definitely positive to very poor. As a consequence of the  
early lymphogenous and hematogenous metastasis of breast carci-  
nomas it is important for the tumor to be diagnosed rapidly in order to be  
able to institute therapy as early as possible.

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[0005] Prostatic carcinomas (carcinoma of the prostate) is on the other  
hand the commonest malignant tumor in men, which occurs in particular  
between the ages of 50 and 70. They are in most cases adenocarcino-  
mas. This malignant tumor initially spreads through infiltrating growth  
20 within the prostate, and later there is infiltration of vesicular glands and  
pelvic connective tissue, and relatively rarely of the rectum, bladder or  
urethra. Lymphogenous and/or hematogenous metastasis takes place.  
The therapy depends on the histological degree of differentiation and  
clinical stage and usually involves radical prostatectomy with regional  
25 lymph node extirpation, and in the advanced stage withdrawal of male  
sex hormones. In these cases, too, the prognosis depends on the stage  
of the carcinoma. Whereas in a very early stage a radical prostatectomy  
is followed by cure in about 90% of cases, in an advanced stage the  
prognosis tends to be pessimistic.

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[0006] Prostatic carcinomas need to be diagnostically differentiated  
from hyperplasia of the prostate. Hyperplasia of the prostate is a benign

tumor. In these cases there is enlargement of the prostate through a numerical increase in cells and glands of the stroma. Hyperplasia of the prostate is the commonest cause of impairments of bladder emptying in men. Its clinical onset is in particular between the ages of 40 and 50.

5 Progression is slow and episodic. Moreover, symptoms in most cases appear only after some years with a gradual weakening of the urinary stream and delayed start of urination. In these cases, the administration of phytotherapeutic agents may be considered as therapy or alleviation of the symptoms.

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[0007] Since early recognition, i.e. diagnosis, of tumors is generally important for starting therapy quickly, and the prognosis is also better when the tumor is diagnosed earlier, a number of so-called tumor markers are in clinical use. Substances and cellular changes whose qualitative or quantitative analysis may enable statements to be made about the presence, progression or prognosis of (malignant) disorders are generally referred to as tumor markers. Tumor markers are classified as:

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1. Cellular tumor markers:

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These include inter alia cell membrane-associated tumor antigens, receptors (e.g. hormone receptors, receptors for growth-promoting substances in leukemia) and cell markers which indicate an increased expression of oncogenes and a monoclonal cell growth, and molecular genetic cellular changes, especially chromosome aberrations.

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2. Humoral tumor markers:

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These are (usually physiologically occurring) substances which are detectable in increased concentrations, compared with physiological conditions, in serum, urine and other body fluids and which are synthesized and/or secreted by the tumor tissue, released by oncolysis or formed as a response

of the organism to a tumor. The physiological significance of tumor markers is only inadequately known. They usually have no immunogenic effect in the human body. The clinical (diagnostic) significance depends on their specificity and sensitivity. The humoral tumor markers are divided into two groups. The first group comprises the humoral tumor markers which are produced by the tumor itself. These include, for example, tumor-associated antigens, certain hormones (e.g. gastrin, cortisol etc), enzymes (e.g. neuron-specific enolase (NSE)), and proteins (e.g. Bence-Jones protein). The second group comprises the tumor markers which, although induced by the tumor, are not produced by it. Important humoral tumor markers of this group are, for example, alkaline phosphatase (AP), LDH, neopterin etc.

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[0008] The statements made above show how important selective and sensitive tumor detection methods are. There is in addition a great need for novel targets for tumor therapy.

20 [0009] Accordingly, the object of the invention is to provide novel active ingredients and targets for diagnostic and therapeutic applications in tumor therapy.

25 [0010] It has surprisingly been possible to show in experiments with various tumors that certain proteins were synthesized and/or secreted only in the tissue affected by tumors. These proteins thus play an important role in the development of tumors and the progression of a neoplastic disease.

30 [0011] Accordingly, the object of the invention is achieved by the subject matter of independent claims 1 to 5, 14, 18 and 22. Preferred embodiments are specified in the dependent claims 6 to 13, 15 to 17, 19 to

21 and 23. The content of all these claims is hereby included in the description by reference.

[0012] It is possible according to the invention to use at least one active ingredient for the prevention or treatment of tumors, in particular malignant tumors. In this connection, this active ingredient influences the expression and/or the function of proteins synthesized and/or secreted by the tumor in eukaryotic cells, whereby the increase in tissue volume and/or metastasis of the tumor is at least partially inhibited. By influencing the expression and/or function of the proteins synthesized and/or secreted by the tumor is meant in particular inhibition of these proteins. This active ingredient can further be used to produce a medicament or a pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or treatment of tumors.

[0013] Also claimed is the use of a substance for detecting the expression and/or the function of proteins synthesized and/or secreted by tumors, in particular malignant tumors, in eukaryotic cells, for diagnosing disorders associated with these tumors. Disorders associated with these tumors include, for example, the abovementioned prostatic carcinomas, hyperplasia of the prostate (hypertrophy of the prostate) etc. However, all other tumor-associated disorders in which the proteins of the invention are synthesized and/or secreted are also encompassed by the invention.

[0014] In a further preferred embodiment, a method for the prevention or treatment of tumors, in particular malignant tumors, is claimed, where eukaryotic cells are treated with an active ingredient which influences, in particular inhibits, the expression and/or the function of proteins synthesized and/or secreted by tumors, and thus at least partially inhibits the increase in tissue volume and/or the metastasis of the tumors.

[0015] In addition, in a further preferred embodiment, a method for di-

agnosing disorders associated with tumors, in particular malignant tumors, is claimed, where eukaryotic cells are brought into contact with a substance which detects the expression and/or the function of proteins synthesized and/or secreted by these tumors.

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[0016] The proteins synthesized and/or secreted by the tumors may be, in a particularly preferred embodiment, the proteins listed in table I shown below. Thus, the substance employed for detecting and/or for diagnosing tumor-associated disorders may be for example an antibody 10 which is directed against these proteins and is employed in a detection method known to the skilled worker, such as, for example, ELISA (enzyme-linked immuno sorbent assay). In such so-called immunoassays, the specific antibody directed against the antigen to be determined (or in the case of antibody determinations homologous testantigens) is bound 15 to a support substance (e.g. cellulose, polystyrene) on which immune complexes form after incubation with the sample. In a subsequent step, a labeled antibody is added to these immune complexes. It is possible, by adding a homogeneous substrate to the reaction mixture, to visualize the immune complex-bound enzyme-substrate complexes and estimate 20 the antigen concentration in the sample via a photometric determination of the immune complex-bound marker enzymes by comparison with standards of known enzymic activity. Further substances which can be used for the diagnostic detection are, for example, so-called oligonucleotides which are suitable, with the aid of the so-called polymerase chain 25 reaction (PCR), via a molecular genetic method in which there is selective amplification of particular DNA segments, for achieving quantitative detection of the investigated proteins. Further methods allowing a known target protein to be detected quantitatively or qualitatively are familiar to the skilled worker. Active ingredients which can be used for at least partial inhibition of these proteins are likewise known to the skilled worker. 30 Thus, for example, so-called antisense sequences can be used as active ingredient. It is additionally possible to use genetically modified mutants

of these proteins according to the invention as active ingredient, e.g. so-called deficient mutants in which the enzymatic activity has been eliminated.

Table I: Detected tissue-specific proteins

	Acc no	Protein	Scores	MW Theo.	MW range	pI	Expr. cancer
1	gi 1085373	protein disulfide-isomerase EC 5.3.4.1) ER60 precursor - human	319	57883	60000	5.9 6.1	++ ++
2	gi 1374715	ATP synthase beta chain, mitochondrial precursor	284	56525	55000	5.0	++
3	gi 14729950	(XM_028869) isocitrate dehydrogenase 1 (NADP+), soluble [Homo sapiens]	94	47515	42000	6.8	++
4	gi 184326	M12387) haptoglobin precursor [Homo sapiens]	100	47073	22000	5.8	+
5	gi 4505763	(NM_000291) phosphoglycerate kinase 1 [Homo sapiens]	136	45826	40000	8.7	++
6	gi 12056473	(NM_018946) N-acetylneuraminc acid phosphate synthase, sialic acid synthase, sialic acid phosphate	167	41698	37000	6.5	++
7	gi 13111901	(BC003119) Similar to ATP synthase, H+ transporting, mitochondrial F1 complex, alpha subunit, isoform	76	40614	25000	7.1	++
8	gi 4757756	(NM_004039) annexin A2, annexin II, lipocortin II, Annexin II (lipocortin I), calpastatin I, heavy polypeptide	81	39288	25000	7.1	--
9	gi 5174541	(NM_005918) malate dehydrogenase 2, NAD (mitochondrial), Malate dehydrogenase, mitochondrial	177	36925	32000 32000	9.2 9.5	++ ++
10	gi 4506237	(NM_002818) proteasome	96	27863	30000	5.5	o

		(prosome, macropain) activator subunit 2 (PA28 beta), Proteasome activator s			30000	5.6	++
11	gi 225915	gamma seminoprotein [Homo sapiens]	120	27843	25000 25000 32000 32000 32000	6.5 6.8 6.8 7.1 7.5	++ ++ o o o
12	gi 999892	Chain A, Triosephosphate Isomerase (Tim) (E.C.5.3.1.1) Complexed With 2-Phosphoglycolic Acid	200	27407	25000 25000 25000	6.5 6.8 7.1	+ + o
13	gi 4507359	(NM_003186) transgelin; smooth muscle protein 22-alpha; 22 kDa actin-binding protein; SM22-alpha	100	22638	15000 20000 20000 21000 23000 23000 23000 23000	5.3 6.6 6.1 6.6 6.9 8.2 9.1 9.6	- - -- -- o o o +
14	gi 5729842	(NM_006708) glyoxalase I, lactoyl glutathione lyase, lactoylglutathione lyase [Homo sapiens]	135	21415	22000 22000 22000	4.8 4.9 5.0	++ ++ ++
15	gi 4505621	(NM_002567) prostatic binding protein, phosphatidylethanolamine binding protein [Homo sapiens]	160	21398	20000	7.9	+
16	gi 2250701	(AB001517) KNP-I beta protein [Homo sapiens]	68	20819	25000	7.1	++
17	gi 4827038	(NM_005079) tumor protein D52 [Homo sapiens]	131	19851	25000	4.7	++
18	gi 5031635	(NM_005507) cofilin 1 (non-muscle) [Homo sapiens]	125	19199	17000 18000	8.5 6.5	o ++

19	gi 4507387	(NM_003197) transcription elongation factor B polypeptide 1-like, organ of Corti protein 2 [Homo sapiens]	74	19177	18000	4.2	-
20	gi 4503545	(NM_001970) eukaryotic translation initiation factor 5A [Homo sapiens]	102	17530	17000	5.1	+
21	gi 10120703	Chain A, Structure of Human Transthyretin Complexed With Bromophenols: A New Mode Of Binding	164	13930 37000	17000 5.6	5.6 o	++
22	gi 4557581	Fatty acid binding protein 5 (psoriasis-associated)	60*	15155	18000	6.5	++

Scores = hits found with the aid of the MASCOT technique

MW theo. = theoretical (calculated) molecular weight

MW range = found in the molecular weight range of the indicated marker proteins

5 pl = isoelectric point

Expr. cancer (0 = found both in malignant and benign tissue; + upregulated; - downregulated).

[0017] In a further preferred embodiment, the active ingredient or the substance is directed against the proteins themselves which are synthesized and/or secreted by the tumors. As already described, the active ingredients may be for example antisense sequences. These are then directed directly against the synthesized and/or secreted proteins. The active ingredient may additionally constitute genetically modified mutants. Thus, it is possible to construct, for example, by genetic engineering methods, mutants in which the catalytic center is eliminated (so-called deficient mutants). In these cases, although the tumor-associated proteins are synthesized, they have no or only a reduced enzymatic activity. These deficient mutants which have previously been inserted into the tumor tissue are unable to comply with the task as-

signed to them in the tumor tissue, by which means the increase in tissue volume and/or the metastasis of the tumor is at least partially inhibited.

5 [0018] In another preferred embodiment of the invention, the active ingredient is directed against activators, inhibitors, regulators and/or biological precursors of proteins synthesized and/or secreted by tumors. These activators, inhibitors, regulators and/or biological precursors may be for example members, located up- and downstream, of the transduction cascade of the proteins listed in table I, transcription factors which regulate the level of expression of said proteins, but also previously unknown molecules which are influenced by the active ingredient and are involved in the expression and/or function of said proteins.

10 15 [0019] It is possible in the invention to use both known and unknown active ingredients or substances. Thus, for example, the active ingredient or the substance may be a polynucleotide which encodes a peptide, in particular a polypeptide, this peptide preferably influencing, in particular inhibiting, the expression and/or function of proteins synthesized and/or secreted by tumors. The active ingredient or the substance may further be a peptide, preferably a polypeptide, this peptide preferably influencing, in particular inhibiting, the expression and/or function of proteins synthesized and/or secreted by tumors. The active ingredient or the substance may further be a small molecular compound, preferably a

20 25 small molecular compound having a molecular weight (MW) of < 1000.

[0020] In a particularly preferred embodiment, the malignant tumor is a prostatic carcinoma. As already described, prostatic carcinomas represent the commonest malignant tumors in men. Only if a prostatic tumor can be detected in an early stage e.g. by prostate-specific antigen-based mass screenings (Bartsch G, Horninger W, Klocker H, Reissigl A, Oberaigner W, Schonitzer D, Severi G, Robertson C, Boyle P: Prostate

cancer mortality after introduction of prostate-specific antigen mass screening in the Federal State of Tyrol, Austria. Urology 2001; 58:417-24) is it possible to consider the pure (preventive) surgical removal of the prostate (Bukkapatnam R, Pow-Sang JM: Radical prostatectomy in the  
5 management of clinically localized prostate cancer. Cancer Control 2001; 8:496-502; Pentyala SN, Lee J, Hsieh K, Waltzer WC, Trocchia A, Musacchia L, Rebecchi MJ, Khan SA: Prostate cancer: a comprehensive review. Med Oncol 2000; 17:85-105). For the advanced disorder which is no longer limited to one organ, preventive removal of the prostate is  
10 no longer adequate. A possible choice of therapy for these prostatic tumors (prostatic carcinomas), some of which are inoperative, is, as already described, inhibition of the male sex hormones (Hussain A, Dawson N: Management of advanced/metastatic prostate cancer: 2000 update. Oncology (Huntingt) 2000; 14; 1677-88; discussion 1688, 1691-4).  
15 This inhibition of the production of male sex hormones, in some cases in combination with surgical or pharmacological castration, partly inhibits the proliferation and metastasis of the tumor and thus permits it to be controlled for a certain period (Afrin LB, Ergul SM: Medical therapy of prostate cancer: 1999. J S C Med Assoc 2000; 96:77-84; Auclerc G, An-  
20 toine EC, Cajfinger F, Brunet-Pommeyrol A, Agazia C, Khayat D: Management of advanced prostate cancer. Oncologist 2000; 5:36-44). Most prostatic tumors develop over time a certain resistance to this endocrinological therapy and, over time, they become androgen-insensitive (Eder IE, Culig Z, Putz T, Nessler-Menardi C, Bartsch G, Klocker H: Mo-  
25 lecular biology of the androgen receptor: from molecular understanding to the clinic. Eur Urol 2001; 40:241-51; Crawford ED, Rosenblum M, Ziada AM, Lange PH: Hormone refractory prostate cancer. Urology 1999; 54:1-7). Further possible therapeutic options such as, for example the use of cytotoxic agents (Heidenreich A, von Knobloch R, Hofmann  
30 R: Current status of cytotoxic chemotherapy in hormone refractory prostate cancer: Eur Urol 2001; 39:121-30), gene therapy (Miyake H, Hara I, Kamidono S, Gleave ME: Novel therapeutic strategy for advanced pros-

tate cancer using antisense oligodeoxynucleotides targeting anti-apoptotic genes upregulated after androgen withdrawal to delay androgen-independent progression and enhance chemosensitivity. *Int J. Urol* 2001; 8:337-49) and immunotherapy (Rini BI, Small EJ: Immunotherapy for prostate cancer. *Curr Oncol Rep* 2001; 3:418-23), although undergoing clinical testing, have not to date been able to achieve significant success in the treatment of prostatic carcinoma (DiPaola RS, Kumar P, Hait WN, Weiss RE: State-of-the-art prostate cancer treatment and research. A report from the Cancer Institute of New Jersey. *N J Med* 2001; 98:23-33). Identification of genes which are expressed only in tumors, or in which different expression can be detected in benign and malignant tumors, is therefore a promising approach to the therapy of these tumors (Magee JA, Araki T, Patil S, Ehrig T, True L, Humphrey PA, Catalona WJ, Watson MA, Milbrandt J: Expression profiling reveals hepsin overexpression in prostate cancer. *Cancer Res* 2001; 61:5692-6; Welsh JB, Sapino LM, Su AI, Kern SG, Wang-Rodriguez J, Moskaluk CA, Frierson HF, Jr., Hampton GM: Analysis of gene expression identifies candidate markers and pharmacological targets in prostate cancer. *Cancer Res* 2001; 61:5974-8; Stamey TA, Warrington JA, Caldwell MC, Chen Z, Fan Z, Mahadevappa M, McNeal JE, Nolley R, Zhang Z: Molecular genetic profiling of Gleason grade 4/5 prostate cancers compared to benign prostatic hyperplasia. *J Urol* 2001; 166:2171-7; Dhankar SM, Barrette TR, Ghosh D, Shah R, Varambally S, Kurachi K, Pienta KJ, Rubin MA, Chinnaiyan AM: Delineation of prognostic biomarkers in prostate cancer. *Nature* 2001; 412:822-6; Waghray A, Schober M, Reroze F, Yao F, Virgin J, Chen YQ: Identification of differentially expressed genes by serial analysis of gene expression in human prostate cancer. *Cancer Res* 2001; 61:4283-6; Chaib H, Cockrell EK, Rubin MA, Macoska JA: Profiling and verification of gene expression patterns in normal and malignant human prostate tissues by cDNA microarray analysis. *Neoplasia* 2001; 3:43-52; Chetcuti A, Margan S, Mann S, Russell P, Handelsman D, Rogers J, Dong Q: Identification of differ-

entially expressed genes in organ-confined prostate cancer by gene expression array. Prostate 2001; 47:132-40). It is therefore possible according to the invention to offer a therapeutic approach to the treatment of these tumors through inhibition of the described tumor-associated proteins.

[0021] The active ingredient or the substance can moreover be administered orally, intravenously, topically and/or by inhalation in a further preferred embodiment. The administration form depends on the tumor 10 itself and on the patient's constitution. Further administration forms are known to the skilled worker.

[0022] The invention additionally includes a pharmaceutical composition which comprises an effective amount of at least one active ingredient 15 which influences, in particular inhibits, the expression and/or the function of proteins synthesized and/or secreted by tumors, in particular by malignant tumors, and where appropriate a pharmaceutical carrier. The active ingredient may be a polynucleotide which encodes a peptide, in particular a polypeptide, this peptide preferably influencing, in particu-20 lar inhibiting, the expression and/or function of proteins synthesized and/or secreted by tumors, in particular malignant tumors. The active ingredient may further be a peptide, preferably a polypeptide, this pep-25 tide preferably influencing, in particular inhibiting, the expression and/or function of proteins synthesized and/or secreted by tumors, in particular malignant tumors. The active ingredient may also be a so-called small molecular compound, preferably a small molecular compound having a molecular weight (MW) of < 1000. For the further features of such an active ingredient, reference is made to the corresponding previous text of the description.

30

[0023] The invention also encompasses a pharmaceutical composition which comprises an effective amount of at least one active ingredient

which influences, in particular inhibits, the expression and/or function of activators, inhibitors, regulators and/or biological precursors of proteins synthesized and/or secreted by tumors, in particular malignant tumors, and where appropriate a pharmaceutical carrier. The active ingredient in  
5 this case may be a polynucleotide which encodes a peptide, preferably a polypeptide, this peptide preferably influencing, in particular inhibiting, the expression and/or function of activators, inhibitors, regulators and/or biological precursors of proteins synthesized and/or secreted by tumors, in particular malignant tumors. The active ingredient may also be a pep-  
10 tide, preferably a polypeptide, this peptide preferably influencing, in particular inhibiting, the expression and/or function of activators, inhibitors, regulators and/or biological precursors of proteins synthesized and/or secreted by tumors, in particular malignant tumors. A further active ingre-  
15 dient of the invention may be for example a small molecular compound, preferably a small molecular compound having a molecular weight (MW) of < 1000. For the further features of such an active ingre-  
dient, and of the activators, inhibitors, regulators and/or biological pre-  
cursors against which this active ingredient is directed, reference is made to the corresponding previous text of the description.

20

[0024] Finally, the invention includes a diagnostic kit, this diagnostic kit comprising at least one substance for detecting the expression and/or function of proteins synthesized and/or secreted by tumors, in particular malignant tumors, for diagnosing disorders associated with these tu-  
25 mors. It is moreover possible for example for a corresponding disorder to be a prostatic carcinoma, which is claimed in a particularly preferred embodiment. For further features of such a substance, reference is made to the corresponding previous text of the description.

30 [0025] The existing features and further features of the invention are evident from the following description of preferred embodiments in con-  
junction with the dependent claims and the figures. It is possible in this

connection for the individual features to be implemented each on its own or in a combination of a plurality with one another.

[0026] The figures show:

5

Fig. 1: Diagrammatic representation of the experimental design

Fig. 2: Gel electrophoretic and MS analysis of benign and malignant prostatic tissue and the equivalent spots.

10

Fig. 3: Preparative gels with tissue-specific protein expression.

**Material and methods:**

15

**Patients and tissue samples:**

[0027] Benign and malignant prostatic tissue were obtained from patients previously subjected to a prostatectomy. The patients had been identified with the aid of PSA (prostata specific antigen) screening, and the tumors were confirmed with ultrasound. Consent was obtained from each patient before the operation was performed.

[0028] Immediately after the prostate was removed it was transferred into a sterile box and cooled therein. The samples were transferred to the pathologist, where tissue sections 0.5 to 1 cm thick were made. The sections were divided into a left and a right half, embedded in a freezing matrix and shock-frozen. The remainder of the prostate was fixed in formalin and treated further in accordance with standard methods. To obtain tissue samples, thin sections were taken from both sides of the prostate and stained with hematoxilin-Eosin. The pathologist located and

marked the tumor. Tumor tissue was taken from the hematoxilin-Eosin-stained strips and stored at -80°C. Marked benign control strips were taken from regions not affected by tumor and subjected to an identical treatment. The tumors were stored at -80°C where necessary.

5

Proteomics analysis:

[0029] Protein alkylation, iodination, 2D-PAGE and the data analysis  
10 were carried out in accordance with standard methods. Radioactive iodine originates from Amersham Biosciences (Freiburg). Proteins were labeled with iodine I-125 or I-131 singly with identical concentrations of iodine. All radioactive operations were generated in accordance with the "Radiation protection regulations 2001" (Germany). For the 2D PAGE,  
15 the samples were mixed together and fractionated by co-electrophoresis in accordance with the diagram of figure 1. The radioactive measurements were carried out with a multiple photon detection (MPD) or a Phosphorimager (Fuji FLA 3000, Raytest, Straubenhard, Germany).

20 [0030] The multiple photon detection measurements were carried out on a 1600 pixel MPD imager (BioTracers Inc., Herndon, USA) in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions for at least 24 hours, for a 24 cm × 24 cm region per measurement. The scanning in these cases was set at 0.5 mm per pixel. In some cases, small regions were scanned  
25 for a longer time in order to achieve a higher sensitivity, or scanning was at 0.25 mm per pixel in order to increase the resolution. The MPD imagers were moreover set to detect either I-125 or I-131 in each measurement. Because of the shorter half-life of I-131, this isotope was always measured before I-125 for each individual sample. MPD data were converted into matrix data using the IMAGEVIEW software (BioTraces).  
30 These data were then analyzed using the BIOPREPARIATION software in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Radioactive data

were converted into TIFF data with the aid of an algorithm for analysis of conventional software. Some radioactive measurements were carried out with a Phosphorimager.

5 [0031] Protein identification was carried out using preparative 2D PAGE gels. These gels contain up to 1 mg of protein which have been iodinated under identical chemical conditions as for the radioactive iodination, but with addition of non-radioactive iodine molecules. Silver-stained proteins with a migration behavior like the radioactive proteins  
10 were collected automatically with the aid of the Genomic Solutions Flexys robot. In some cases, the silver-stained proteins were removed at the places on the gel where no radioactive signal was present but where the silver gels differed between benign and malignant tissue. Gel portions were digested automatically with trypsin in a Genomic Solutions  
15 Investigator Progest and 10% of the resulting proteins were loaded onto a MALDI template with the aid of a Genomic Solutions Investigator ProMS robot. MALDI-TOF was carried out in a Bruker AutoFlex in accordance with the manufacturer's information. Where necessary, up to 90% of the peptide obtained by trypsin digestion was analyzed with the  
20 aid of the LC/MS/MS method. In this case, an LC-Packing Ultimate micro HPLC was connected to a Bruker Esquire ion trap mass spectrometer, or the samples were analyzed with the aid of the nanospray MS/MS method on the same mass spectrometer. Protein identification was carried out with the aid of the MASCOT program of version 1.07 (Matrix Science, UK) using our own algorithms.  
25

Results:

30 [0032] Fig. 1 shows a diagrammatic representation of the experimental design on which the results are based. This entails two samples A and B to be analyzed each being labeled separately with I-125 and I-131

in order to obtain the iodinated samples 125-A, 125-B, 131-A and 131-B. Each sample is analyzed in gels 1 and 2 in each case comparing with the same but differently labeled sample, as also depicted in the figures. Samples A and B are analyzed in gels 3 and 4, comparing with the corresponding other sample under the same conditions. These gels therefore contain four replicates of samples A and B, these being directly related to samples A and B.

[0033] Fig. 2 shows the results of these experiments. Fig. 2 A therein represents malignant, 2 B benign and 2 C the comparative gel (2 A + 2 B). Fig. 2 C shows the different expression of individual proteins in the different tissues. The results of these analyses are compiled in table I which has already been shown.

[0034] Fig. 3 shows the proteins found for the example of two preparative gels (pH range 4-10). It should be pointed out in particular that several isoforms of individual proteins were found. Thus, for example, a total of 5 isoforms which were detected at pH 6.5 – 7.5 exist for protein 11 (gamma-seminoprotein), thus demonstrating the existence of several isoforms of one and the same protein. It was additionally possible to show that there is formation not only of particular proteins but in particular also of specific isoforms of individual proteins in tumors. It is also possible to show that in some cases the expression of particular proteins (see table I) is inhibited, i.e. downregulated. These proteins thus represent suitable targets for known and yet to be developed active ingredients for the treatment of the disorders associated therewith, and suitable targets for detecting these disorders.

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